

Washington State Board of Registration for Landscape Architects

Number 2 ■ Fall 2005

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Your Board Members:

Shane E. DeWald, ASLA
Board Chair ■ Bellevue

Thomas C. Sherry
Board Vice Chair ■ Spokane

James S. B. Yap
Board Secretary ■ Everett

Charles A. Warsinske, ASLA
Member ■ Seattle

Jeanne Harris,
Public Member ■ Vancouver

Staff

Joseph Vincent Jr.
Administrator

Joan Y. Robinson
Program Manager

Emma Butler
Program Representative

Message from the Chair*By Shane DeWald*

I believe it is fair to assume that I speak for all five members of the State Board of Registration for Landscape Architects in saying that it is a privilege to represent the profession of Landscape Architecture in appointed service to the Governor and all citizens of the state of Washington.

The work of the Board—to oversee and encourage licensure through examination or reciprocity as an important means to protect public health, safety and welfare—is conducted via two meetings and two conference calls per year thanks to support of the experienced staff of the Washington State Department of Licensing in Olympia, Washington. Their responsibilities to us and to the Board members of related professions including Architecture and Geology are actively managed to ensure efficiency and consistency in regulatory operations for all professions under their purview statewide.

Beyond the work of the Board and staff here in Washington, the interest in efficiency and consistency has motivated all member boards of CLARB (the Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards) to pursue administration of three (A, B, & D) test sections via computer four times per year at Regional Test Centers (including 3 in Washington State). With this kind of progress in only a few short years, we suspect the goal to develop and administer a fully computerized exam will soon be realized as well.

What's in this for you? A lot!

Thanks to the recent change to create a Dedicated Fund (see related article on this subject), the reward of hard work to improve efficiency is yours. As a current licensee, an applicant for reciprocity, or a candidate pursuing licensure for the first time in Washington, you benefit (see sidebar chart identifying “before” and “after” fees).

As your current Chair and a member of the Board for ten years come September of 2006, it is with nothing short of passion that I thank both past and current members responsible for many newsworthy achievements.

Continues next page

Administrative services are provided to the Board by the Department of Licensing. The Department and the Board have a policy of providing equal access to its services. If you need special accommodation, please call (360) 664-1497 or TTY (360) 664-8885.



As a team, our work in the last ten years has:

- Utilized technology to reduce the cost of Board and staff operations.
- Established a Washington State exam section to highlight laws critical to the work of Landscape Architects in our State.
- Promoted licensure by providing newly graduated students immediate accessibility to the licensing exam.
- Supported and strengthened The Law Relating to Landscape Architects under the Uniform Regulation of Business and Professions Act.
- Supported and, as of 2005, achieved the change to establish a Dedicated Fund.

Thank you to the many educators and students of Washington State University and the University of Washington and to representatives from the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects who have invested time to meet with the Board and share your work and your interests with us. We all have a responsibility to work together for the benefit of the public and the environment. ■



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If you, or someone you know, would like to receive a copy of this publication, please contact us at:

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Your Board Members

Shane DeWald, Board Chair, is a resident of Bellevue, Washington with a BLA from the University of Idaho with 25 years of professional experience including 16 years in the current position of Senior Landscape Architect for the City of Seattle Department of Transportation. In this position, Shane is responsible for Landscape Architectural design of Transportation and Drainage Projects, review and approval of landscape architectural features provided in the public right-of-way in conjunction with private development projects in the City of Seattle, and supervision of the Landscape Maintenance and Operations section of SDOT. Her recent work with Seattle Public Utilities on low-impact Natural Systems Projects to creatively manage stormwater have brought recognition to the City of Seattle as a recipient of an Innovations in American Government Award from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. Shane is in her second term on the Board and will complete her service as of 9/17/06.

Thomas C. Sherry, Board Vice Chair, a Spokane resident, has a BS in landscape architecture from Washington State University. He has been President of T.C. Sherry & Associates, P.S. Landscape Architects, since it was founded in 1995. He is licensed in both Washington and Montana. He is currently a Board Member for the WSU Interdisciplinary Design Institute in Spokane, and is a member of the Construction Specifications Institute. Thomas has served in the profession since 1982, and is active in community revitalization work, recreational projects and educational projects. He was appointed to a first term on the Board in September 2002, his term expiring in September 2007.

James SB Yap, ASLA, Board Secretary, a Monroe resident has a Masters Degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He is licensed in both Washington and New York, and is currently the Senior Park Planner for the Snohomish County Parks and Recreation. His earlier career included design, planning and construction management, residential and commercial landscape design. He is currently managing a variety of capital projects. He is a member of the review team for the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (Youth Athletic

Funds). He was appointed to his first Board term in April, 2004, that term expiring in April 2008.

Charles A. Warsinske, ASLA, Member, a Seattle resident, is Vice President of SB&A Landscape Architects in Seattle. He has a BS degree in horticulture/landscape architecture from Washington State University, and an MLA degree from the University of Washington. He is licensed in both Washington and Utah. Charles served two terms as Chapter President of WASLA. His early career included community, natural resource and economic planning throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. He presently is managing a variety of design projects for local, regional and state governments. Charles was appointed to the Board in September 2000, that term expiring in September 2005.

Jeanne Harris, Public Member, a Vancouver Washington resident and city council member for Vancouver serving in her 10th year, has a BA from Concordia University in Business Management and Communications and is currently doing her masters work in Applied Behavioral Science from Bastyr University in Seattle. Jeanne is a licensed insurance agent for Farmers Insurance. Jeanne serves on the Association of Washington Cities board of directors as well as the National League of Cities Human Development Steering and Advocacy committee, appointed by AWC. Jeanne focuses in particular on affordable housing, transit and economic development. She is past chair of Ctran, served as vice-chair on the SW Washington Health District and chair of the Vancouver Affordable Housing Summit.

The Remaining 2005 Meeting Schedule Is:

November 17:
Spokane
(WSU Interdisciplinary Design Institute)

You are invited to attend Board meetings and give Board members feedback on issues related to the licensing of landscape architects. Meeting agendas, locations, times and minutes can be accessed on the landscape architect website. The 2006 Board Meeting Schedule will be determined at the November 17th meeting.

The Board has the authority to adopt rules and regulations that have the force of law. This authority

enables the Board to establish practice and standards of conduct to which all practitioners must adhere, so that disciplinary action is avoided. The Board also has the authority to evaluate the qualifications of applicants and investigate complaints, and affect national landscape architectural registration standards.

The Board meets four times a year, once each at the University of Washington in Seattle and the WSU Interdisciplinary Design Institute in Spokane, so that they can meet landscape architecture students and respond to questions. The other two meetings are generally conference calls. ■

New Board Member Welcome

James SB Yap, ASLA, a Monroe resident has a Masters Degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He is licensed in both Washington and New York, and is currently the Senior Park Planner for the Snohomish County Parks and Recreation. His earlier career included design, planning and construction management, residential and commercial landscape design. He is currently managing a variety of capital projects. He is a member of the review team for the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (Youth Athletic Funds). He was appointed to his first Board term in April, 2004, that term expiring in April 2008. ■

New Board Administrator

Please join us in welcoming Joe Vincent Jr. to the Board team. Joe was hired as the new Board Administrator for the Landscape Architect Board on February 1, 2005. He also is the administrator for the Architect, Geologist, Cemetery and Funeral Directors and Embalmers Boards.

Prior to his appointment, Joe was the Licensing Program Director for the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. His most recent duties included overseeing exam development and administration for multiple locally prepared exams, as well as those administered by NCEES. He also led the implementation on a new law regulating designers of on-site wastewater treatment systems. Joe began with the Department of Licensing in 1992. ■

CLARB and Those #*)%# Acronyms

We receive many questions that confuse CLARB (Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards), LARE (Landscape Architect Registration Exam), WLARB (Washington Landscape Architect Registration Board) and WASLA (Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.) With all the acronyms and similar sounding names, it is confusing. We will try to make some sense of this.

CLARB is the organization all the State Boards around the country belong to. CLARB's primary function is to prepare and grade the computerized sections of the exam (Sections A, B and D) and the graphic sections (Section C and E). CLARB administers Section A, B and D and uses a contractor (Thomson-Prometric) to provide the test centers. In Washington, the Landscape Architect Registration Board administers Sections C and E, typically in Seattle.

LARE is the exam and is composed of five sections:

- Section A. Legal and Administrative Aspects of Practice
- Section B. Analytical Aspects of Practice
- Section C. Planning and Site Design
- Section D. Structural Considerations and Materials and Methods of Construction
- Section E. Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management

The LARE is exactly the same in every jurisdiction. The same exam is administered on the same days and under the same conditions in every jurisdiction, and all exams are uniformly graded by CLARB. Each section receives a pass or fail score independently from the other sections. All five sections must be passed prior to licensure.

The Washington Landscape Architect Registration Board is composed of five members appointed by the Governor to 5-year terms. Four of the members are landscape architects and one is a layperson. We meet four times per year and are responsible for licensing landscape architects, addressing violations of the acts and interfacing with CLARB and other organizations in the performance of our duties.

WASLA is the statewide chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. This is a professional organization with members who are licensed and non-licensed individuals. ASLA and WASLA advocate for the licensing of landscape architects but have no administrative involvement in CLARB or the Washington Landscape Architect Registration Board.

A note of interest is the use of the letters, "ASLA". Some laypeople believe that if an individual uses ASLA associated with their name that this is an indication they are licensed as a landscape architect. This is not the case. CLARB and ASLA are now discussing this subject.

If you have questions pertaining to any of the above, please contact our Board Office at (360) 664-1497. ■

Continuing Education

Continuing education is a requirement for license renewal for landscape architects in many States. The number of credits and content of courses accepted vary with each State. In Washington, continuing education is not a requirement of renewal.

In talking with many in our profession, there is support to add a continuing education provision to our requirements or if a Practice Act is submitted to the Legislature, to include a section on this. Personally, I support continuing education and believe practicing landscape architects seek opportunities to keep up to date with their profession. Making this a requirement is a question that the Landscape Architect Registration Board has addressed in the past and will likely address in the future.

The issues involved in requiring continuing education include certification of courses and reporting and tracking of credits obtained by licensees. Other states have and are grappling with these and other issues and have arrived at varying solutions. Being licensed in several States with different continuing education requirements and reporting methods can be a time and money-consuming problem for individuals. CLARB is just now starting to address these and other continuing education issues with Member Boards.

With the Landscape Architect Practice Act on the horizon in Washington, the requirement for continuing education will likely be an issue. Should the Act require

Customer Satisfaction Survey

5



The Board of Registration for Landscape Architects and the management of the Department of Licensing, are seeking comments from our customers about the service and products we provide. The results of this survey will help us identify how we are performing and where we could make improvements in the services and products we provide. In addition, at the end of the survey you are invited to provide any additional comments on subjects that may not have been covered in the questions below.

Please take the time to complete this survey and return it to us via FAX: (360) 664-1495 or by regular mail: P.O. Box 9045, Olympia, WA, 98507-9045.

1. Please rank the top three of the following existing services in their order of importance to you.
- ☐ Access to understandable forms and instructions.
 - ☐ A fair and efficient licensing process.
 - ☐ Accurate and current information on the Board Web site.
 - ☐ Renew a license online.
 - ☐ Access to licensed Board staff for information or consultation.
 - ☐ Participation in Board decision-making.
 - ☐ Effective and balanced law enforcement.
 - ☐ Regular publication of the *Geologist Newsletter*.

SECTION A: Application Processing

Please answer the following questions about your experience when applying for a license or a certificate with the Board. If you have not submitted an application, please proceed to SECTION B.

2. Which of the following applications have you submitted within the past year?
- ☐ Landscape Architect (exam)
 - ☐ Landscape Architect (reciprocity)
3. How satisfied were you in the services you received?
(Circle the number that best represents your response to the statement, where 1 represents DISAGREE up to 5 being AGREE)

- A. The information and instructions for completing the application were understandable.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- B. You were provided an explanation of the application review process and the amount of time required to make a decision.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- C. If you were found ineligible for licensure, you were provided an explanation of your appeal opportunities and the process.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- D. You received courteous and prompt service from Board staff.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- E. If you took an examination, *and you passed*, you were given complete information on what steps and timeline remained before a license/certificate would be issued.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- F. If you took an examination, *and you failed*, you were given complete information on what steps were required to be eligible for a subsequent examination.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- G. You received your wall certificate within 2 weeks of when you were licensed.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

SECTION B: Online Services

Please answer these questions if you have used the online services and products available from the Board. If you have not, please answer the last question in this section and proceed to SECTION C.

4. How often do you use online services from the Board?

☐ Weekly
☐ Monthly
☐ 1 to 3 times every 6 months
☐ 1 to 3 times a year
☐ Never

5. Please rank the top three of the following online services in their order of importance to you. If you have not used

- ☐ Downloadable forms.
- ☐ Renew a license.
- ☐ Access list of licensees for license status.
- ☐ Access past Board Journals.
- ☐ Email notification of Board notices.
- ☐ Links to related sites.
- ☐ Access to laws and rules.
- ☐ Special articles and announcements.
- ☐ Board information (members, phone numbers, address, hours).

6. How satisfied were you with the online services you received?

- A. The Board website displayed pertinent information.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- B. The Board website was easy to Navigate.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- C. It is easy to lookup information on licensees.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- D. The links included on the Board website are useful.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- E. The process to renew a license online was easy to follow.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

7. If you have not used the online *LICENSE RENEWAL* service, please let us know why? (mark all that apply)

☐ I prefer not to do transactions online for any reason.
☐ I am not confident of the security for online business transactions.
☐ I do not use MasterCard or Visa.
☐ The instructions were unclear and confusing.
☐ I did not know that online renewals were available.
☐ I intended to but forgot about it.

SECTION C: Newsletter

8. How satisfied were you with the content and presentation of the Landscape Architect Newsletter?

- A. The *Newsletter* is organized in a professional and user-friendly format.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- B. I find that the *Newsletter* contains information that is useful to me as a licensee.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

- C. Overall, I am satisfied in the Content and presentation of the *Newsletter*.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5

SECTION D: Informational Inquiries

9. When you contact the Board office, what method(s) do you prefer to use? (mark all that apply)

☐ Phone ☐ email ☐ fax
☐ US mail ☐ Courier (FedEx/UPS etc.)
☐ Office visit

10. How many times in the past two years have you contacted the Board office?

None 1 2 3 4 5+

11. When you contacted the Board office, how many attempts were necessary to obtain the information you were seeking?

None 1 2 3 4 5+

12. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with your most recent contact with our office.

- A. The phone voice message I left was replied within 24 hours. I was able to speak with the person I was attempting to reach.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- B. I received the information I needed.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- C. The staff member who assisted me was courteous and knowledgeable.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- D. The message I sent was acknowledged or replied to within one week.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

- E. Overall, I was given quality service when I last contacted the Board.

Disagree Agree
1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Use this space to provide any clarification to your responses or to further help us identify areas of our service delivery that can be improved.

continuing education and if so, how should it be administered? I would be interested in your thoughts on the subject of continuing education. Call me, Chuck Warsinske at (206) 789-2133 or war@sbassociates.com. If you have an opinion on the inclusion of continuing education in a Practice Act, contact WASLA at www.wasla.org. ■

Landscape Architects & Stormwater Management

Low-Impact solutions in Urban Environments Protect the Public Health, Safety & Welfare

Nearly every day news articles and television broadcasts cover stories to raise public awareness of the impacts of development on the condition of urban creeks and forests and the resulting decline in water quality and populations of native flora and fauna. The need to reverse this trend is recognized but presents a real challenge for elected officials and policy-makers responsible to balance priorities in the urban environment where construction of buildings and roads is critical for economic vitality.

Cities are and should always be home with a clean water for people, trees, and rich populations of native plants and animals. Projections vary but there is no doubt that we must plan now for population increases and development in a manner that preserves and restores ecological balance. The impacts of past practice have proven the need for creative solutions to sustain and recover healthy forested ecosystems to accommodate the increases in resident populations and businesses necessary for healthy local economies.

Many who live and work in the urban environment expect natural ecosystems to be self-sustaining despite the impact of people including our construction of buildings, utilities and roads. Years of investment in formal drainage systems to convey runoff along curbs, into catch basins and pipes below the ground have provided an “out of sight, out of mind” means of stormwater management that has kept the negative effects of urban runoff from being recognized by the public.

Perhaps at no other time has there been a challenge so perfectly tailored to demand the expertise of professionals educated in the discipline of Landscape Architecture. The

word “sustainable” newly applied to the building industry always has been in the vocabulary of Landscape Architects trained to integrate man-made infrastructure into the land upon which it is constructed in a manner that is beneficial to both. Recognizing and designing for runoff as an asset to be managed and protected from contamination rather than a waste product is a very important component for today’s professional tasked with the responsibility to provide sustainable site design focused on the public health, safety and welfare.

Among the wealth of examples of work executed by Landscape Architects in this area are a few in the Seattle area including the site development for the REI Flagship store at 222 Yale Avenue designed by Tom Berger of the Berger Partnership and several street improvement projects undertaken by the City of Seattle under the Seattle Public Utilities Natural Drainage System Program which can be found at locations pictured and described at these websites: www.seattle.gov/util/naturalsystems. http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/forestry_archNaturalSystems.htm.

A “Cascade” prototype is a natural drainage design used on steep, residential streets. This design:

- **Manages high volumes of stormwater from many acres of watershed area (5 to 50 acres).**
- **Provides excellent water quality benefits.**
- **Slows stormwater velocity before reaching the creek.**
- **Locates swales on one side of the roadway.**
- **Locates a sidewalk on the opposite side of the roadway.**
- **Adds extensive tree and shrub cover.**

Landscape Architect Funds Move into Dedicated Account

On April 12, 2005 Governor Gregoire signed into law Substitute House Bill 1394 creating the Business and Professions Dedicated Account. The Department of Licensing asked the Legislature to establish a dedicated account for the self-supporting professions that had previously deposited revenues collected from their licensing fees into the state's General Fund. There are thirteen professions that the bill affects, including the Landscape Architects.

Subject to a biennial budget process, Business and Professions submits a two-year budget in two parts – one for each year. Prior to the establishment of a dedicated account, under expenditures at the end of each year were absorbed by the General Fund, available to be used by the state for any purpose.

The change to establish a dedicated account ensures that all revenue collected for the profession is deposited in the Dedicated Fund available to be appropriated to DOL by the Legislature for the full two-year biennial budget cycle. At the end of the biennium, surplus funds remain in the dedicated account, creating a "fund balance" available for expenditure as appropriated by the Legislature.

The revised fee schedule published in this newsletter is designed to establish a small fund balance to help ensure stability. Fees collected in slight excess of expenditures one year add to the fund balance to cover expenditures in excess

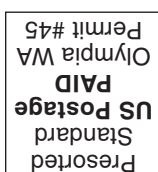
of revenue collected during a subsequent year.

With the passage of the BPD Dedicated Account, all self-supporting professional license programs administered by the Department of Licensing will be in a dedicated account. The outcome will be improved management of programs for the professions and assurance that funds collected from licensing fees are used solely in support of those professions. ■

Renew your license now, before you end up on the "not" list

In an effort to encourage timely renewal and –most importantly– prevent loss of the licensing credential due to expired licenses, the Board will provide a list of names of all delinquent renewals available via the Board website. The initial publication of this list will be approximately one month after the delivery of this newsletter and will be updated each week thereafter. Want to keep your name off the "not" list? Just mail in your notice with the indicated fee (this would be the fee in effect when your license was due, not the newly reduced fee published in the newsletter schedule). Can't locate your notice? Just drop us a note with the appropriate fee. Not sure how much you owe? Call us, we'll be happy to tell you! (360) 664-1497.

If we list the name of someone you know that is retired, deceased, or no longer active in the profession in the state of Washington, please contact us so that we may take the necessary steps to have the record updated. ■



Landscape Architects Licensing Board
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